The Spire
The Beacon on the Seine

October 2013
Dear Members and Friends of the ACP,

I always look up when I go into our sanctuary. The sunlight brings alive the stunning stained glass windows of our worship space. As students, teachers and school administrators are looking forward to the Vacances scolaire de la Toussaint, or “Toussaint holidays,” I’ve been reflecting on “all the saints” depicted in our beautiful windows. How many churches in the world have not only Jewish, but Roman Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant Christian “saints” so artfully depicted in their worship space?

But what is a “saint” anyway? The New Testament Greek word for saint is literally ‘ἁγιός (hagios), those people “holy” or “set apart” for God’s purposes in the world. The words “holy” and “sanctified” have the same root (in the Greek) as “saint.” Saints are people sanctified, or made holy, set apart for God’s work. But how are they made holy? In I Corinthians 1:2 we read, “To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints…” Paul teaches that it is by being “in Christ Jesus” that we are sanctified, set apart, made holy for God’s work in the world.

Another interesting fact: In order to be canonized as a saint in the Roman tradition, you have to be... well, dead! But all of the saints referenced in the New Testament are alive! In other words, the New Testament assumption is that saints are living people who put their faith “in Christ.” That means you and me, saved sinners that we are, are now saints, set apart for God’s Kingdom purposes at home, school, work, in the marketplace, and in our church community. In Ephesians 4 we read: “The gifts he [the Holy Spirit] gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry…”

As much as I am inspired by looking up at the windows of that “great cloud of witnesses” of saints past, I am even more inspired, encouraged and hopeful when I look at all of you who are the saints present and future! So here’s a spiritual discipline to try over the Toussaint holidays: Say to yourself as you look in the mirror: “I am Saint (your first name)!” It may sound strange, but “in Christ,” you too are a saint. Then consider the question, “How then - as part of ‘the communion of saints’ - shall I live?”

By grace, through faith, of course! But as Paul says, we are called to “work out our salvation with fear and trembling, because God is at work in you!” I encourage you to seek out a group of old or new friends to meet regularly and encourage and challenge one another in the way of Christ. Maybe that means singing (a choir?) or ringing (bell choir?) or jamming together (Still Point band?)? Maybe it means joining a Bible Study, prayer or interest group (see Small Group listings later for the different options for you)? Maybe it means attending the All Church Retreat? Maybe it means serving with the Children’s Worship or Youth or Young Adults’ group? Maybe it means serving with the Friday Mission Lunch or the Homeless Ministry? Maybe it just means showing up to help celebrate what other saints are doing (read more about the 25th anniversary of the Beckerath Organ concert this month)?

We’ll talk about it more around All Saints Day which is always 1 November. But in the meantime, I pray that we all will daily live more and more into our identity and calling as the communion of saints...

In Christ,

Thoughts from The Rev. Dr. Scott Herr Senior Pastor October 2013

In Christ,
The 2013 Fall Retreat will be taking place from 25-27 October at La Clarté-Dieu, a Franciscan centre 20km southwest of Paris. Our speaker this year is the Rev. Dr. Teresa Lockhart Stricklen who is an Associate for Worship in the Office of Theology and Worship of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in Louisville, Kentucky. Before going to the Office, she taught preaching and worship as an assistant professor at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. She has also taught at Vanderbilt Divinity School and Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Her Ph.D. is in homiletics and theology with an emphasis in hermeneutics, revelation, and liturgical theology. Interested in language, arts, and culture, she does theology as someone curious about how people actually encounter the divine. Her current work for the Office involves directing Academies for Missional Preaching for the continuing education of pastors and for resourcing contemporary versions of the ancient catechumenate for the formation of new disciples.

Dr. Stricklen will be giving two Thurber Thursday lectures prior to the retreat and we will continue to explore the imagery of these lectures during the Retreat. Her lectures will be on “The Royal Imposter or The Sneaky God Moving Among Us.” She explains, “I’m going to work on the idea of God being like fairy tales’ royalty who disguise themselves as peasants in order to find out what’s going on in their kingdom so that they can help their people. Jesus preached that the *basileia* (Kingdom) is at hand—right here, now, moving among us, but the sovereign movement of God in the world (the real definition of *basileia*) is shadowy, cloaked in mystery, hard to see, yet seen most clearly in Jesus Christ, who was God in the flesh, the risen Lord whom we continue to encounter in Holy Spirit. The second lecture will help us identify this slippery character called God in our everyday life today, who is like Macavity, the Mystery Cat in T.S. Eliot’s poem. We don’t see God, only the trace evidence of God’s having been on the move among us, and this trace evidence comes amidst the stuff left behind by human beings, too. This begs the question of how we know something is of God. Here, the church helps us with characteristics that follow the work of God in the world.”

The retreat will cost €80 for adults, €60 for Young Adults, €120 for an adult and child, €250 for a family (2 adults and up to 2 children) and €30 for an additional child.

For more information about the weekend or to reserve a place, please contact Pastor Michelle <assocatepastor@acparis.org>.

We are still searching for a retreat co-ordinator. See page 13 for more information!
No, this is not the Paris Open, a truly wonderful spectacle held each year at Roland Garros! Open Paris is an international youth workers’ training conference being held at The American Church in Paris in October. The Youth Ministry department here at ACP is partnering with The Youth Cartel in bringing the first-ever Open event to Europe!

I believe that God is doing something special in Europe and especially in France. While we still have much to learn about ministering to teenagers in a post-Christian and postmodern context, we can share ideas with the global community about what God is doing in our midst here in Paris. Open Paris is designed to bring together a diversity of youth workers from around the world to engaged, interactive and learn from one another.

Here are a few tag phrases to help explain how Open Paris describes itself:

**It’s about everything Youth Ministry:**
The general idea behind Open is that we believe that the best ideas in youth ministry are “out there” being tried – right now – by youth workers just like you. But most other events don’t give those voices an opportunity to share what they’re learning.

Open is exactly the opposite. We exist to celebrate innovation, discover new ministry ideas, and hopefully inspire the collective us, the tribe of youth ministry, to dream about reaching students in new ways.

**The best bargain you’ll get all year:**
Open is not meant to be a big, fancy, expensive conference. Open is meant to be a low-key gathering that is affordable — cheap, even — to allow people from all walks of life to attend, meet, share, and learn. Sponsorships and donations make this possible, keeping ticket prices low. You’ll likely meet Open speakers who are featured at expensive national conferences, but you might just meet a youth worker in your postal code, too. Open is designed to be one of the best bargains around.

**Open to all, content galore, shared with community:**
Open does not discriminate, and youth workers of all shapes, sizes, denominations, and employment statuses should all feel welcome at Open, regardless of their experience level.

Sessions will hopefully span a variety of formats, including lectures/presentations, Q&A, workshops, interviews, and any other format you can imagine.

**Making connections, promoting collaboration:**
Getting to meet and learn from other youth workers face-to-face is one of the main reasons we hope you’ll attend Open. When space allows, we hope to set up an informal space staffed with experienced youth workers who try to help fellow attendees with their questions. Maybe you’d just like someone to sit and pray with you? We’ll create space for that.
Open Paris, continued

Locally organized and focused:
While there may be speakers and attendees from all over the region, we will be sure to flavor the program with lots of local speakers/presenters. It’s fun to hear from the big names in our world, but Open is not meant to be a lecture circuit with the same speakers at every event, so expect each Open to be completely unique.

I hope Open Paris is a place of cross-pollination. I’d love to see people come from a wide variety of ministry contexts, denominational backgrounds, and ethnicities brought together at Open Paris. We already have guest speakers and attendees registered from six different countries and I love the idea of learning from one another in ways that enrich and broaden our perspectives.

So if you’re a ministry leader in any way, shape, or form who works with adolescents... you’re invited! Even if you just live in Paris and are looking for a way to meet people who care about teenagers, we hope you’ll find Open Paris a place you can do that.

For more information about the event and to register please visit the website: http://paris.openym.org

New to Paris?
The BLOOM Program helps English-speaking newcomers settle in and make new friends.
Information at bloom.acparis.org. Walk-ins are accepted on space-available basis.

On the 2013 programme
Patricia Wells: restaurant critic & chef
Peter Caine: author & historian, Paris Walks
Jane Kendall: photographer, leadership development
Improfessionals: international comedy troupe
Exhibition hall: contacts with expat organizations and businesses
Wine-Down: wine and cheese-tasting

Not so new to Paris?
Come share your savoir-faire and help welcome newcomers. If you can’t be here but would like to help out, please feel free to donate baked goods for our dessert! Otherwise e-mail: bloom.acparis@gmail.com

Organised and hosted by The American Church in Paris
Happy 25th Birthday, Becky!

By Fred Gramann

Here’s a riddle: What has four separate rooms the size of a small Paris apartment, 3,328 pipes (not including the plumbing!), 200 keys that don’t seem to open any doors, and requires a Wizard (or Wizardess) of Oz behind a screen to make it all function? If you guessed our magnificent Beckerath pipe organ (nicknamed “Becky”) you are right! On the weekend of 12 and 13 October we are celebrating her 25th birthday.

What did we have before Becky? In 1931 a pipe organ by the John Abbey Company was installed in our newly built nave. Unfortunately the builder went bankrupt during the installation and, although there were many beautiful sounds, it had serious technical failures from the start. It constantly broke down and often had notes that would sound all by themselves, known as ciphers.

The famous Sunday that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. preached at ACP the organ totally malfunctioned, leaving the service without any musical accompaniment. I’m imagine that Edmund Pendleton, the Music Director at the time, was heard muttering “I have a dream... to get a new organ!”

How did we manage to purchase the Beckerath organ? The first step was ruling out an electronic organ. While such instruments are adequate in certain situations, it was strongly felt by many that our sanctuary required a magnificent pipe organ to go with the architecture and brilliant stained glass windows. Unfortunately Dr. Edwin Tuller, the senior pastor at the time, highly favored an electronic organ, and his wife did not like the sight of organ pipes. Needless to say we faced an uphill battle. However Dr. Thomas Duggan, the incoming senior pastor in 1979, saved the day. When asked if he could tell the difference between two recordings, one made on an electronic organ and the other on a pipe organ, much to Dr. Tuller’s amazement he replied, “It’s obvious which one is the pipe organ. The second one.” The rest is history. Pipes it would be!

How did we come up the money? With a total cost of $600,000 it was a monumental task for our congregation. Initially we assumed there would be one or two major donors who would fund the project. What happened instead was the exact opposite of our expectations: a true representation of ACP as “many hands, one body.” The funding came from over 500 individual donors and some 50 companies.

Several gifts were sizeable: the American Ambassador to France, Joe Rogers, gave a magnificent fund-raising reception at the Embassy Residence; Victor Vasserely, the Hungarian-French artist, donated one of his optical illusion paintings to be auctioned off for the project; Yves Montand, the famous French actor, even made a gift! But there were also hundreds of small offerings that were equally important. Together they made possible an aural and visual centerpiece for worship at ACP.

ACP Organ Trivia

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Total Weight</th>
<th>Number of pipes</th>
<th>Case material</th>
<th>Wind chests</th>
<th>Keyboards</th>
<th>Hours to carve the case decorations</th>
<th>Cost in 1988</th>
<th>Cost today</th>
<th>Where did the funds come from</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 tons</td>
<td>3,328</td>
<td>German oak</td>
<td>Oregon pine</td>
<td>Grenadil and Ivory</td>
<td>about 900</td>
<td>$600,000</td>
<td>$1,400,000</td>
<td>Over 500 donors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Let there be music! On Saturday evening, 12 October at 20h, there will be a free gala concert to celebrate the 25th anniversary of our pipe organ. There will be solo organ works, as well as organ combined with various instruments and ensembles: solo voice, trumpet, handbells, choir and piano. ACP member Peter Bannister has been commissioned to write a new work for organ for the occasion which will be premiered. The organ/piano duo Katherine and Vera Nitikine will be special guests on the program. That will provide a meeting of the 88s’: the Steinway piano built in 1888 and the organ built in 1988. The spectacular trumpeter Simon Fournier will also be heard.

Have your pipe organ and eat it too? Following the concert there will be a vin d’honneur in the neighboring Theater. There will be a special champagne toast using a real organ pipe, and then we’ll share an immense cake the size of the largest 16’ pipe in the organ.

If two hands and two feet are good, are four hands and four feet better? You be the judge! The Atelier Concert on Sunday, 13 October at 17h will feature a program of organ works for 4-hands and 4-feet. Wim Does and Susanna Veerman from the Netherlands will thrill you with works by Rossini, Schumann, Franck, Widor, Elgar, Moszkowski, and John Philip Sousa. Wim studied organ at the Constantijn Huijgens Conservatory in Zwolle, and in Paris with Sophie-Véronique Cauchefer-Choplin. In 2009 he obtained the Master of Music degree for organ at the Rotterdam Conservatory. He is principal organist at St. Aloysius Church in Utrecht. Susanna studied in Moscow at the Tchaikovsky Conservatory. She received an Organ Performance Degree at the Rotterdam Conservatory in 2005. Since 2009 she has been principal organist St. Augustin Roman Catholic Church in Amsterdam.

How do their respective spouses feel about this coziness on the bench? Fortunately Wim and Susanna are husband and wife!!
On Saturday 14 September, six ACP musicians participated in a worship service at a Parisian prison called La Santé.

_Tiffany Musica_ was invited to join the chaplain, Pastor Brice Deymié, and provide music for the service, thanks to Paula Taquet-Woolfolk’s efforts. A string trio led by Camilla Radford-Furman on violin, with Laura Potratz on viola and Vincent Lopez on cello, played the prelude and postlude, and backed the trio of vocalists – Ondine Brent-Eysseric, Paula Taquet-Woolfolk and Anna Zweede – on “Lift Thine Eyes” from Mendelssohn’s “Elijah”.

Other pieces included “Amazing Grace” and “Sweet Little Jesus Boy”.

We are grateful for the privilege of participating in this service, and hopeful that _Tiffany Musica_ will take part in worship at La Santé on a regular basis. The chaplain, and several prisoners themselves, told us that having people from the outside come in meant a great deal to them. We hope that they also understood how much it meant to us to be there!

For further information about _Tiffany Musica_, please contact Anna Zweede.

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_Tiffany Musica_ at La Santé prison

By Anna Zweede

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**Love thy neighbor ~ and bring one to (or from) church!**

There are elderly members of our congregations that would very much like to attend services but are finding it difficult to use the trains and buses. It would be great if we could set up a carpool system where someone who has a need for this service could be picked up and brought back home on any given Sunday. If we can get enough drivers, we are hoping that one Sunday a month/one way, could fill the need.

If you are interested and able to provide a ride to church for someone in need, please contact Camilla Furman at communitylife@acparis.org.
MINISTRY FAIR REVIEW

On 22 September, our new Council members were installed during the service and then joined the tables for over 30 groups at our Ministry Fair, to invite others to share their time and talents in the activities of the church. What is your particular gift? Don’t hesitate to contact one of the leaders listed on the back cover of the Spire, or fill in the yellow sheet in the Bulletin.

La Parisienne

On Sunday, 15 September thirty five thousand women gathered under the Eiffel Tower to raise money for breast cancer in the 17th running of "La Parisienne." Our very own ACP Ladies Running Team met up at church that morning as they prepared to "run with perseverance." The day was filled with music, laughter, sunshine, fellowship and oh yes, hard work and sweat! These girls ran 6.7km and then joined us for worship at 13h30... still smiling!

Interested in joining the ACP Running Team? Contact Kim at women@acparis.org for more info. Men and women are welcome.
Journée du Patrimoine – Planting seeds
by Alison Benney

When I told a fellow church member that over 200 visitors to the ACP kept us busy with tours for the Journée du Patrimoine on 14 September, she asked, “But what is there to tell about our church that you can’t do in 10 minutes? There’s the organ, the catacombs, what else?” I guess I need to do a better job marketing the docent tours.

The edifice of the American Church in Paris holds more than just brick and stone, it hides some cinematic moments worthy of Warner Brothers. There are heartwarming stories, like that of Rodman Wanamaker, who commissioned the Tiffany windows to honor his deceased wife; we’ve got drama, with music director Edmund Pendleton escaping from the Nazis by hiding behind the organ; there’s comedy when we describe Fred Gramann’s role in helping to clean the chandeliers; political change, which explains why we didn’t build a church until 1857; spiritual lessons, thanks to our beautiful stained glass windows, including inspiration from St Genevieve on one of those windows; and of course, plenty of historical background.

It takes at least 20 minutes to hit the highlights, and that’s in English. Recounting these stories to our Patrimoine visitors, 85% of whom were French, was both challenging and fun. A number of our guests from the neighborhood dropped in out of curiosity, and left knowing that the ACP is not a place of worship just for Americans, but strives to be a house of prayer for all peoples.

And the experience went both ways. We learned some French Biblical vocabulary: a pulpit is not called a pupitre, but “la chaire”. The parables on our stained glass windows are “paraboles”, and we discovered that many French visitors thought we must be a Catholic church because we are called an “église”, not a temple. Furthermore, our stained glass window with Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, is not about gospels as in gospel music, but about “les évangiles”.

So while our visitors entered feeling a bit out of their element, most left smiling, with a better understanding of our mission, neatly pulled together by one of the “paraboles”, that of the sower and his seeds, and the importance of planting them in fertile soil. We at the American Church are planting seeds in many ways, through our missions in Africa and Habitat for Humanity, by providing a venue for frank theological discussion on Thurber Thursdays, by broadcasting our message on our twice-monthly radio show, among many others. We also plant those seeds by sharing our history, through our daily open-door mission, our monthly docent tours and the annual Journée de la Patrimoine. In more than 10-minute nuggets.

For more about ACP history, see http://acparis.org/welcome/architecture-history-tours. Join the docent team by contacting Alison at communications@acparis.org

Nuit Blanche, Saturday 5 October: Paris art, all night long

Go sleepless in Paris for art by night. Enjoy art of all kinds in all kinds of places around the city – in monuments, libraries, cinemas, churches, hospitals and even some museums. Installations, exhibits, performances, music: it’s all free entry, with the Metro open until 3am and lines 12 and 14 running all night. Go ahead – what have you got to lose but a night’s sleep? Schedule here: http://quefaire.paris.fr/nuitblanche
My Faith Journey: Focusing on Prayer

By Ros McKeown

As I thought about sharing my spiritual journey with my church family, I was certain there was nothing interesting about it for a congregation of Presbyterians. My spiritual chronology goes like this: I was baptized in a Presbyterian church; I was confirmed Presbyterian; I was married in a Presbyterian church. When Gene and I moved to Oak Ridge the first church we visited was First Presbyterian. There is little unusual or interesting in that sequence.

When I attended ACP, I participated in a women’s group in which we wrote one-minute elevator speeches about how we became Christians. I was really struck by the drama of many of the other women’s witnesses. One broke drug addiction, another escaped an oppressive political government, another gained the courage to leave an abusive marriage and flee with her daughter to France. The women had defining moments when they became a Christian, felt God was active in their lives, or dedicated themselves to Christ. If their spiritual journeys were turned into paintings they would have been heroic-sized canvases in bold colors. I was impressed with the women and struck by the way God acted in their lives.

Alas, in comparison my spiritual journey was a small canvas done in pale colors. This is my elevator speech:

“Because I am Presbyterian I did not experience a defining moment when I became a Christian. My faith and understanding grew gradually as I attended Sunday school and participated in worship, Bible study, and other church activities. With the challenges of marriage, motherhood, and career I learned the power of prayer. Prayer has helped me navigate the unexpected bumps and turns of my life’s path. Through it all, I know that I am a child of God and that God loves me.”

The role of prayer in my life to cope with life’s challenges is perhaps the most interesting part of the elevator speech. In moving to Paris, prayer became a large part of my life. Although Paris is a beautiful and sophisticated city, for the first 18 months it was a wilderness for me. Picture this: I arrived in Paris, with two suitcases and a computer case, the address of a hotel and my work place. I left behind my safety net of family and friends. In Paris, there was no one to call after hours or on weekends if I needed assistance. My Parisian theme song was Kum ba Yah.

Living in a foreign country is a humbling experience. Suddenly, you realize that your do not know how the system works, and furthermore, you lack a network of people who know the system. One of my American-Parisan friends, who is an engineer and musician, told me that moving to Paris felt like having 20 points shaved off her IQ.

In Paris, the Trinity became my safety net as well as my frequent companion.

One of the first books that I checked out of the ACP lending library was Robert Benson’s In Constant Prayer. It was a blessing. I learned about praying the Daily Office. I began to pray morning, midday, evening, and late night prayers. In addition, I sent out lots of short spontaneous prayers of a few seconds in length, which basically said, “Lord I need help with this.” I prayed for my “enemies,” meaning those people at work who really irritated me. I prayed that they would gain the professional skills that would make them more successful and less aggravating to my co-workers and me. Work was stressful; prayer made it less so.

At work, when I had particularly important meetings to go to, I spent some time in conversation with God. I laid out the problem, my concerns, and my arguments. Then, I asked God to please let me focus on my other work. I knew that if I did not have this conversation with God, then I would spend all morning rehearsing my arguments. Just before I went into the meeting, I prayed again saying, “May the words of my mouth be pleasing in Your sight and may You prepare the listener to hear my words and to know Your will.” Meetings seemed to go better when I prayed.

Generally, I had prayer to cope with the doses of stress that were served up regularly at work. One day in a particularly busy season an intern asked me, “how do you stay so calm?” I answered her, “I pray a lot.”

I had become dependent on prayer; it was my safety net. Oh Lord, Kum ba Yah.
Christian Education

Anne Speicher and Lori Kolodziejczak

A Call to Live—Small Group Studies

To further the aim of widespread participation in Christian education, small groups are being organized throughout the city, on different days and times at individual homes or at the church. The groups combine Bible study, community, and everyday application. To join a group, please contact the leaders directly.

Saturday Morning Brunch Circle led by Felicia Henderson.

Community Bible Study International will continue an in-depth study entitled God’s Amazing Book. Contact Ariel for more information.

ACP Filipino Fellowship Bible Study continues with our Sunday afternoon Bible Studies. Contact Virginia Jacinto for more details.

AFACP Bible Study meets on Sundays in G7 at 12h45 (Please note, there is no Bible study on the first Sunday of the month).

ACP Tuesday Morning Women’s Bible Study will be studying Romans. We meet from 10:30-12:30 every Tuesday and Childcare is available for a minimal fee. Please contact Jennifer Jourlait for more details.

ACP Men’s Group meets on Thursday mornings at 7h30. Come for coffee, conversation, prayer, and fellowship. Any men interested in further information should contact Dominique Grelet.

Small Groups Ministry

Feeling called to join or even lead a small group at ACP?

These small groups are organized across Paris and suburbs in homes, cafés and at the church and take place on different days/times throughout the week. By joining one of these groups, our hope is that you will be blessed with fellowship, Bible study, and guidance to apply what you learned to your daily lives. Members of small groups experience close fellowship and grow as a community in Christian love. Sounds like a group you’d like to join?

Feeling called to lead a small group? Or, have ideas about a study theme for a small group? We want to hear from you! Please contact the Christian Education ministry, Lori and Anne christianeducation@acparis.org or Pastor Michelle Wahila at associatepastor@acparis.org
Thurber Thursdays
An adult community gathering and growth time that is open to all.
We share a meal at 18h30 and the evening program begins at 19h30. Our program this month includes presentations by Dr. Teresa Stricklen, Associate for Worship, Office of Theology and Worship for the Presbyterian Church (USA) on the topic of "Everyday Spirituality" on 17 and 24 October.

CALLING ALL EVENT COORDINATORS!
Do you get excited about the idea of organizing an event? Are you passionate about cultivating fellowship at ACP? Then the ACP All-Church Retreat needs you!

ACP is seeking an Event Coordinator for the ACP All-Church Retreat. We are looking for a highly organized person that feels called to coordinate this much-anticipated annual event. This year the retreat will take place from 25 to 27 October in a beautiful Franciscan setting in Orsay, France (less than one hour from Paris). As coordinator, your duties will include drafting ongoing announcements, fielding questions, handling registration and making financial arrangements for registrations not processed via the online registration system, organizing room arrangements, as well as recruiting volunteers for the Welcome Team, set-up/break-down, children’s activities, etc. The coordinator will have on-going support from Retreat veterans and the Christian Education team. If you feel called to help us make this important event happen, then please contact Anne Speicher and Lori Kolodziejczak at christianeducation@acparis.org.

Young Professionals
Are you between 25 and 39 years old? Experiencing the corporate world in Paris and surrounding areas? Then come and share your experiences with us.

This month we will be following a new study, “Crazy love: overwhelmed by a relentless God” by Francis Chan. Join us every Wednesday night from 19h30 to 21h30 in the ACP catacombs.

Stay connected by joining our ACP Young Professionals Facebook group.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Elodie via the website www.acparis.org/yp
Remarkable children

God has placed some special children under our care here at Rafiki Village Uganda. As painful as it can be to see them struggling with their difficulties, the joy is that much greater when these children make progress. Here are two such stories among many:

Hannah’s parents separated soon after her birth. Two years later, her mother dropped Hannah at the father’s house and disappeared from the little girl’s life. In addition to malnutrition and a lack of basic hygiene, Hannah suffered from an extensive infection in one of her legs leaving her able to move around only by hopping, the withered leg held up under her. Her father asked for Rafiki’s help. For the next six months, Hannah came each evening to the Rafiki Village clinic. Our health worker and two of our older girls, future nurses, dressed her wounds, bathed and pampered her. Her general health began to improve. She received free surgical treatment several times at a pediatric center run by volunteer orthopedic surgeons from Italy.

After a year she was able to walk with crutches and join Rafiki School’s pre-kindergarten class. She began to blossom. Her new artificial leg now enables her to walk upright, so her spine is straightening. Although technically a Day Student, Hannah spends her afternoons and Saturdays at Rafiki with one of the families of girls her own age. She eats most meals here, and takes special pride in following the rules. Yesterday I watched her skipping, yes, skipping along the walkway on her way to play with her Rafiki sisters. She is God’s child whom he allows us the joy to care for.

Nicholas came to Rafiki at age five, directly from a “babies’ home” for abandoned children. He became an avid reader, curious about everything, contributing with insight and intelligence to classroom discussions but not at all motivated for school work. He barely passed yet seemed satisfied with those results. Neither a trouble-maker nor a happy child, he resisted relationships. Nicholas is thirteen now. While most of his fellow students correspond with their sponsors and receive gifts from them, Nicholas has never written or received a single letter.

This past week, a U.S. State Department “VIP” visited Uganda. Just hours prior to his trip, a stateside friend asked him to visit Rafiki where she sponsors a child — the very same Nicholas. The Embassy speedily arranged the visit, in full pomp with police escort and official photographer; Rafiki staff were delighted to make ready for the important visitor. This kind, loving Christian man, with a story of his own, was introduced to Nicholas, brought greetings from the sponsor-friend and spent several minutes with the young boy, putting him in the spotlight. Both were touched and touching to observe. Nicholas beamed. He recognized the providential nature of this contact and immediately composed a letter of thanks — a first for him. Time will tell if this small but perhaps important moment will have a lasting effect.

We at Rafiki are truly blessed to be working here. I personally thank all of you at ACP for your prayers and financial support, whether it is individual or through the Missions Outreach Committee.
Following our Destiny!

By Destiny E. Ryales

I pray the rentrée was not too difficult for you all in Paris. I remember my first one in 2007 and the pressure was really on. Balancing a wonderful au pair job, 30-hours of French classes, a new culture and a busy missionary life at ACP during September was hard. Every weekend, I slept Saturday and Sunday afternoons and evenings away. However in Ghana, it’s not at all the same! I thank God for the continued slowness while we are transitioning from summer break to the school year.

This summer I was blessed to have many ACP members come to Ghana for a visit. Carolyn Bouazouni and Daniel Grout were around for one week in Elmina. These two were and still are my mentors!! Passing on life advice, NGO ideas and just an awesome, loving friendship. Then Eric Taquet was around for seven fun weeks, also in Elmina. I took him over to the village for one week and we laughed the entire time. The students loved him as much as I do!

Kendal Brenneman came to stay for two weeks in September. She is a fellow ACP Habitat for Humanity missionary and we have taken three trips (2010-2012) together. She has never been to Ghana or let alone Africa so the difference in living conditions and lifestyle was a great surprise to her. God bless her for coming here for an adventure! Last but not least Welela Kindred was in Accra to perform in the Chole Wole Art Festival of Jametown. We planned to visit Ghana together in 2010 but she was able to join me so our reunion last weekend was almost tearful! Needless to say, I love visitors! Now it’s time to work on my family in Chicago...

On 18 August I celebrated my first full year in Ghana. It’s amazing how fast time flies when you are having fun and doing the work of the Lord. God called and equipped me with the things necessary to make this project work and I am blessed. Things are coming together slow and steady - like my marathon running.

The Department of Social Welfare, which is the governmental body that manages all the NGOs or non-profits in Ghana, approved my project and gave me the regional Registration of NGO Business License! The last and final step is to acquire the national license. I’m so grateful and humble that ECTF is advancing in such a graceful manner. With the final license, I can request the resident permit and will be able to stay in Ghana without extending my Visitor Visa over and over again.

Our Afrangua Primary School has received two new teachers and one new class of students—8th grade - for this school year. This moves our total student body to 115 students all in 1st grade to 8th grade. All the classes except 1st grade will continue from last year lessons. Our headmaster is excited about the 2013-2014 school year and very thankful for us being here to offer hands-on computer lessons to the students. I’m floating on cloud nine right now! Thank you ACP for your prayers and support from the bottom of my heart!
During the lazy days of summer finding a good book, drinking a Starbucks Frappucino, and sitting in a green metal lounge chair at one of the many garden parks around Paris is a welcomed and cherished way to spend some time. However for us, Tete (Team Leader), Camilla, Christine, Thu, John, Barkley, Clarisse, Yinka, Arielle, Hugh, Elodie and Sonia, the ACP's Habitat team for this trip, lounging around and sipping fancy coffee drinks was definitely not part of our plans...Nope., no lounging around for us. We were off on a mission! A mission that would teach us new skills for life, for living and helping others to live and have a better life.

On Friday, 9 August, we split into two groups to fly into Hungary and when we all joined up, we were definitely pleased to be at a pleasant hotel with a pool! We were introduced to our Habitat liaison, Renata and we knew that we were in for a wonderful time as we headed to dinner to hear about our plans for our weekend in Budapest! Renata had a very nice tour guide show us around the beautiful city and upon our return to the hotel several of our team members took advantage of the Olympic size swimming pool. Dinner in the evening was a buffet to remember and we all had too much to eat and lots of fun deciphering what some of the food was.... but whatever it was, it was all very delicious! Renata then took us to a really great night spot and we enjoyed spending the evening getting to know each other in a setting different than the kitchen where all the baking had taken place for the sales at church on Sunday!

Sunday morning we hiked across a long bridge to cross the Danube and head to the Scottish Presbyterian Church. The Pastor graciously received us and we all enjoyed the service, after which, we were whisked away to start the work that we had come to do. We were ready..... team bonding had been done and we were ready to work together in doing something that we really had never done before and we were all excited for our new adventure. As we drove to our destination, about 30 minutes outside of Budapest, we arrived at a nice restaurant on a lake. The hotel was across the street, and it was really VERY nice. After fuelling us up with stuffed cabbage and whole fried fish, we then headed another 20 minutes to the work site were we had our orientation with our construction foreman, Levi. He gave us the rules of the work site: wear your hard hat, don't fall off the scaffolding, what to do if you hurt yourself, etc, etc. We also got to meet the family, and the family dogs! Even with Hungarian being a most unfamiliar language to us, that didn't get in the way of seeing what our mission meant to this family. Putting insulation on their house was an obvious blessing to them, and it would turn out, a big blessing to us as well.

By 8h00 the next morning, we were clad in our Habitat T-shirts and had our hard hats on and we were ready to roll. Roll plaster all over the 3 story structure that is! Some members of the team plastered, then bolted styrofoam sheets of insulation on the walls and others put up the fiberglass mesh and plastered that. When it dried, other team members sanded it all down so it could be replastered and resanded. It doesn't sound like much, but
trust me when I say it was a ton of really hard, labor-intensive work. Personally, I thought my arm was going to fall off at least twice! After the first day, we were so exhausted that all we wanted was dinner and bed. Well, that really isn’t true. I wanted dinner and some Ibuprofen and bed, but others went swimming in the lake and had energy for late night chats! I really thought that the alarm at 6h00 would go off and I wouldn’t be able to move but with God’s Holy Spirit, not only did we all get up and have breakfast, we were all ready to work like we just couldn’t wait to get there. It really was God’s Holy Spirit at work! It was very encouraging and uplifting to have team devotionals and prayer time too. Our team really benefited from this time together to reflect on what it means to be in service and give of yourself. In giving ourselves to this project, we gained so many blessings, such as working together well, getting to know one another more personally, helping people we don’t know and probably will never see again, learning new skills, (I can plaster like a pro now and its really pretty fun!) and so many other blessings too. We were blessed because we were able to be in service, serving others in need, doing what God has commanded us to do: Love Thy Neighbor.

If you would like to become part of this team and be part of something that is bigger than yourself, think about joining us for a future trip. It is hard, but very rewarding work. Also, if you can, think about donating to our team to help pay for our trip and expenses. It isn’t free and it isn’t cheap, so donations are always welcome. Also, keep a look out for the date when our team is going to host a Hungarian dinner and show all the pictures and tell ALL the funny and touching stories I didn’t have the room to write here. It will be coming up soon!
Sunday Morning Women’s Meetings

Sunday Morning Women’s Gatherings are back! We meet one Sunday each month, in the 2nd Floor Library from 12h30 – 13h30. It is a time to meet and talk with other women in the church. We typically have a speaker who challenges and encourages us as she shares how God is working in her life.

We had a wonderful meeting on 8 September with our speaker, Pascale Deforge, who spoke to us about her call to support the Deep Griha Project in Pune, India. She is particularly excited to be helping with the Women’s Empowerment project, a program designed to increase self-esteem and confidence, encourage social interaction, and provide women with skills to improve earning potential and the ability to support their families. We hope to have more information on how the Women’s Ministry might partner with Pascale soon.

Please also mark the following dates for our next meetings:

We look forward to hearing from our speaker, Monica Bassett, on 13 October, who will talk about Painting in the Spirit; how God has been working in her life and through her art. Exceptionally, we will meet in Kim Herr’s apartment so that we can view some of Monica’s different works of art.

On 10 November we are excited to have Enuma Okoro joining us again to talk about her new book, Talking Taboo: American Christian Women Get Frank about Faith. We will have copies of her book available for purchase in mid-October at the ACP Sunday Morning Bookstore.

All are welcome to attend our meetings and childcare is available. Please feel free to contact Kim at women@acparis.org if you have any questions.

Annual Women's Retreat

Save the date: Saturday, 8 February, 9h30 – 15h00 in the ACP Thurber Room. We are thrilled to have Caroline Corda-Razat talking to us about prayer. She has led many women's retreats for church groups in the US and Europe, and in both English and French. She writes, "I am always amazed how this same message resonates with women from around the world, across demographics and denominations. A real encouragement to me that it is all from the Lord."

Thanksgiving Dinner: Save the date!

Come and celebrate Thanksgiving on Saturday 23 November from 19h00. Tickets go on sale on Sunday 3 November at the Welcome Table after each service and then online starting from Monday 4 November.
From our Prayer Chain Team

Do you have a prayer request for our Prayer Team?
If so, please forward your prayer by e-mail to prayerrequests@acparis.org.
Your prayer request will remain strictly private and confidential.
Prayer is powerful. We are here for you.

James 5:13-16 (NIV)
“13 Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. 14 Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. 16 Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.”

If you would like someone to pray WITH you after services, there will be a Prayer Team member available. Meet under the chandelier in the sanctuary.

From the Lay Caregiver Ministry Team...

On Pentecost Sunday, the Lay Care Giver team started a new tradition of anointing those who wish for it, along with prayer. Anointing is a very powerful addition to prayer and blessing. We are reminded of Christ’s anointing before his death and reminded that we, too, are risen to new life. Therefore, a Christian anointing always points toward the newness of life found in Jesus and the “wholeness” that is given through him.

Anointing also means consecrated or a sacred act, which is why the young confirmation class members were also anointed with oil.

When we anoint in his name we are acting in his power and love to share his gifts of peace, forgiveness and wholeness. Our Lay Care Giver team members receive training from our pastors and are commissioned to represent the pastors to our congregation.

The Lay Care Giver team members will be anointing those who would like to be blessed after the worship services on the first Sunday of each month. All are welcome to be anointed.

Look for our new Lay Care Giver cards in the pews!

Do you need prayer or a listening ear? Fill in the new card for the Lay Care Givers, put it in the offering plate and we will contact you. We are trained to come alongside people in times of difficulty. Let us share your joys and your sorrows. You can also contact us by email at laycaregivers@acparis.org.

We follow training to be equipped to be the hands and feet of Christ in our community. We are always looking for more members and are happy to receive requests for visits or calls. All of our requests are confidential. If you know of anyone who could use a visit or call from us, or would like to become a member of our team, please contact Pastor Michelle or Yoshiko Okubo laycaregivers@acparis.org.
**Young Adult Activities in October**

**Young Adult Events (18-30yrs)**

We meet every Tuesday evening for **Bible Study** (1st and 3rd Tuesday) or **Pizza Night** (2nd and 4th Tuesday).

We are from many different countries, cultures and backgrounds but are united by our passion for Jesus. Whether you are passing through Paris or here to stay for a while, we invite you to join our community.

If you want to grow your faith, learn more about God or if you simply have lots of questions, then why not come and join us on a Tuesday night.

October also sees the return of our popular **Pub Theology evening**. Find out where to meet and how to find the pub by checking the Young Adult Facebook page.

For more information about who we are and what we do at **ACP Young Adults**, please visit our group page on the church website: [http://www.acparis.org/acp-groups/young-adult-ministry](http://www.acparis.org/acp-groups/young-adult-ministry)

We also invite you to connect with us online for community and updates on all young adult activities and gatherings.

[http://www.facebook.com/groups/ACPyoungadults/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/ACPyoungadults/)

You can also follow us on Twitter ([www.twitter.com/danhaugh](http://www.twitter.com/danhaugh))

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**Youth Activities in October**

**Youth Events (13-18yrs)**

Please feel free to bring friends along – they are always welcome at ACP events!

ACP Youth is an active community made up of students 11-18 years old from many nationalities, traditions, and backgrounds. All youth ages 11-18 meet every Sunday in the afternoons starting at 15h00 in the ACP catacombs. This month we are also organising a **bowling trip**. Make sure you check our Facebook page to keep updated about all of our activities.

The second Sunday of every month is now Youth Sunday and we invite all youth to participate in the leading of worship during the 11h00 worship service.

For more information about who we are and what we do at **ACP Youth**, please visit our group page on the church website: [http://www.acparis.org/acp-groups/youth-ministry](http://www.acparis.org/acp-groups/youth-ministry), or contact Rev. Dan Haugh at [youthpastor@acparis.org](mailto:youthpastor@acparis.org).

Join our Facebook group and stay connected with our online community:
Youth Parent Forum
Sunday 20 October

UNDERSTANDING YOUR
TEENAGER
With special guest Mark Oestreicher!

Sunday, October 20 from 15h00 to 17h30
hosted and sponsored by The American Church in Paris.
To reserve your spot please email:
youthpastor@acparis.org

Mark Oestreicher (Marko) is a veteran youth worker and founding partner in The Youth Cartel, providing resources, training and coaching for church youth workers. The author of dozens of books, including Youth Ministry 3.0, Marko is a sought after speaker, writer and consultant. Marko lives in San Diego with his wife Jeannie and two teenage children, Liesl and Max. Marko’s blog: www.whyismarko.com.
The American Church in Paris 65 Quai D’Orsay, Paris France 75007
Opportunities to Serve the Community

CHILDREN’S WORSHIP:  Children’s Worship Needs You!
Volunteers are asked to commit to serving approximately two Sundays every 6 to 8 weeks. For more information, please contact Jeanette at childrensworship@acparis.org.

GREETING AND USHERING:  We are seeking new members for this group. If you are interested in participating during the services, please contact Anna Zweede at worshipandmusic@acparis.org.

FRIDAY MISSION LUNCH at the American Church in Paris. Each Friday from 10h00 to 14h00, a hot, nutritious meal is prepared for the homeless and needy. The American Church is responsible for providing the meal on 11 October (the second Friday of each month) but we are grateful for volunteers and helping hands every Friday. If you are interested and available, please contact Kristie Worrel.

WELCOME TABLE ATTENDANTS and COFFEE HOUR GREETERS: Be a MEETER GREETER! We are looking for happy, cheerful people to help at the Welcome Table after every service, as well as roaming coffee hour greeters. This is a ministry that we can ALL share in, and if you can share 20 minutes of your time, once a month to participate in welcoming guests, you are sure to find more joy than you can give. A smile and a handshake is all that is needed! Teams are being formed so that each team serves one Sunday per month at each service. Please contact Camilla Furman at communitylife@acparis.org if you can be counted on to spread some joy and welcome a newcomer!

HOMELESS MINISTRY makes breakfast for the hungry and homeless on Friday 4 October and distributes the breakfast bags on Saturday 5 October and prepares sandwiches on Friday 18 October ready to give to the homeless on Saturday 19 October. Contact Jurie Ane or Dan Haugh at youthpastor@acparis.org if you would like to get involved.

For other volunteering opportunities, check with Mission Outreach at missionoutreach@acparis.org, Community Life at communitylife@acparis.org, or Dan Haugh with Youth and Young Adult Ministries at youthpastor@acparis.org

ACP Today: Faith Talk From Paris

Have you tuned in to ACP Today, the American Church in Paris’ radio show yet? Join us on Monday 7 and 21 October at 20h45. The 45-minute program is an exciting and inspiring mix of music, interviews, sermon highlights, and discussion on hot topics.

Tune to 100.7 FM on the radio dial, Radio Fréquence Protestante! And please invite others to listen—friends who may be housebound or who would simply like more devotional time on a Monday evening. Missed a show? Don’t worry, you can catch up online at www.acparis.org/acptoday.

If you have any questions or comments, be sure to contact us at acptoday@acparis.org.
ACP Groups and Additional Activities

ACP WRITER’S GROUP meets on the second Saturday of the month at 14h00 – 17h00 in room G2. Contact Laura Kerber at ApollinarisPatera@gmail.com.

KNITTING GROUP meets Mondays from 16h00 to 18h30. Whilst we are primarily a knitting group, we have several new members who crochet, cross stitch and embroider. We knit for ourselves and/or church missions. We welcome all to our fun and diverse group. Please contact Susan Owens for more information.

QUILTING GROUP meets on Tuesday afternoon at members houses. We welcome quilters of all levels. Some of us work on our own projects while others of us learn new techniques. For more information please contact Bonnie Smith.

MOVIE DISCUSSION GROUP: will meet on Thursday, 17 October at 19h30pm in basement room G2. For information on the film choices for October, please go to the ACP website or check the ACP What’s On schedule. See any or all of the films at your convenience, then join the group for discussion.

Independent Christian Prayer Groups and Bible Study Activities

MOMS IN PRAYER INTERNATIONAL has come to Paris! Are you concerned about your kids? Would you like to join with other moms as we lift up our cares and concerns for our children and their schools to our loving Father? Experience the joy of replacing anxiety with peace and hope when we pray together. Contact Caroline at MomsInPrayerParis@gmail.com for information and join us Tuesday mornings at 9h30 in G2. See also MomsInPrayer.org.

BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP (BSF INTERNATIONAL): What a great way to discover the gift of God’s Word through BSF’s interdenominational and international Bible studies! This Paris class brings together 50 or so women for in-depth Bible study every Monday evening from 19h00 to 20h50. Contact Thelma Fuchs for more information.

MINDFUL MEDITATION: This group, being offered on Saturdays from 12h00 to 13h15 in G2, is for those who already have a meditation practice, as well as for those who are interested in beginning a practice. Mindfulness meditation is a way of learning to pay attention to our life as it unfolds moment by moment. It is open to church members as well as to the larger community. Norma Jean Deak, a clinical social worker, has taught Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction for 14 years. Contact Norma Jean with any questions.
## ACP Spire Diary – October events, meetings and concerts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Type</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Special Events and Monthly Meetings and Concerts</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Youth Group Bowling Night</strong></td>
<td>Friday 4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Andrea Chaumont <a href="mailto:youthintern@acparis.org">youthintern@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Homeless Ministry (breakfast project)</strong></td>
<td>Saturday 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dan Haugh &amp; Jurie Ane Feleo <a href="mailto:youthpastor@acparis.org">youthpastor@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing breakfast and sandwiches to the homeless of Paris.</td>
<td>Saturday 5</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Bloom Where You’re Planted orientation program</strong></td>
<td>Saturday 5</td>
<td>9h00 - 18h30</td>
<td>Theater</td>
<td>Kim Herr <a href="mailto:bloom@acparis.org">bloom@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brand new in Paris? Been here a while but still not quite comfortable with French culture? Attend the annual Bloom orientation program.</td>
<td>Saturday 5</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Atelier Concert - Free admission, with free-will offering Suzanne FOURNIER piano, Carmen FOURNIER violin, Pierre François BOËT clarinet</strong></td>
<td>Sunday 6</td>
<td>17h00</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
<td>Fred Gramann <a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ACP Today: Faith Talk in Paris radio show</strong></td>
<td>Monday 7</td>
<td>20h45 - 21h30</td>
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<td>100.7 FM Radio Fréquence Protestante</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tune in for inspiring music, interviews, and sermon highlights.</td>
<td>Monday 7</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Growth Points International Conference for Women</strong></td>
<td>Thursday 10- Saturday 12</td>
<td>Stuttgart, Germany</td>
<td>Kim Herr <a href="mailto:women@acparis.org">women@acparis.org</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Join our group for a weekend of inspiration and teaching with keynote speaker Jill Briscoe in Stuttgart Germany</td>
<td>Thursday 10- Saturday 12</td>
<td>Stuttgart, Germany</td>
<td>Kim Herr <a href="mailto:women@acparis.org">women@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ACP Café</strong></td>
<td>Friday 11</td>
<td>19h30</td>
<td>Theater</td>
<td>Natalie Raynal <a href="mailto:cmusic@acparis.org">cmusic@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Music from the Still Point band in a café setting. Catered by KPS. Free entry, snacks and beverages.</td>
<td>Friday 11</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Multicultural Couples</strong></td>
<td>Friday 11</td>
<td>20h00</td>
<td>Thurber Room</td>
<td>Monica Bassett &amp; Anja Wyss</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fellowship and discussion on topics such as raising bicultural/bilingual children and cultural differences. Bring a dish to share.</td>
<td>Friday 11</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Writers Group</strong></td>
<td>Saturday 12</td>
<td>14h00 - 17h00</td>
<td>Room G2</td>
<td>Laura Kerber <a href="mailto:apollinarisPatera@gmail.com">apollinarisPatera@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Adult Choir rehearsal</strong></td>
<td>Saturday 12</td>
<td>19h00 - 20h00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fred Gramann <a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Concert celebrating 25th anniversary of Beckerath organ installation</strong></td>
<td>Saturday 12</td>
<td>20h00</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
<td>Fred Gramann <a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reception of New Members</strong></td>
<td>Sunday 13</td>
<td>9h00, 11h00, 13h30</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
<td>Camilla Radford-Furman <a href="mailto:communitylife@acparis.org">communitylife@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Women’s Ministry Sunday Gathering</strong></td>
<td>Sunday 13</td>
<td>12h30 - 13h30</td>
<td>The Herr's apartment</td>
<td>Kim Herr <a href="mailto:women@acparis.org">women@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monica Bassett will talk about Painting in the Spirit</td>
<td>Sunday 13</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Atelier Concert - Free admission, with free-will offering Wim DOES and Susanna VEERMAN, orgue à quatre mains</strong></td>
<td>Sunday 13</td>
<td>17h00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fred Gramann <a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thurber Thursday</strong></td>
<td>Thursday 17</td>
<td>19h30 - 22h00</td>
<td>Thurber Room</td>
<td>Michelle Wahila <a href="mailto:associatepastor@acparis.org">associatepastor@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Speaker: Dr. Teresa Stricklen, &quot;Everyday Spirituality&quot;</td>
<td>Thursday 17</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Movie Discussion Group</strong></td>
<td>Thursday 17</td>
<td>19h30</td>
<td>Room G2</td>
<td>Rebecca Brite <a href="mailto:rebecca.brite@club-internet.fr">rebecca.brite@club-internet.fr</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>See film list on ACP website, What’s On, or Sunday bulletin. View any or all films in the cinema, and then discuss with the group.</td>
<td>Thursday 17</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>“Open Paris” youth leader training conference</strong></td>
<td>Friday 18 - Saturday 19</td>
<td>ACP</td>
<td>Dan Haugh <a href="mailto:youthpastor@acparis.org">youthpastor@acparis.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://paris.openym.org">http://paris.openym.org</a></td>
<td>Friday 18 - Saturday 19</td>
<td>ACP</td>
<td>Dan Haugh <a href="mailto:youthpastor@acparis.org">youthpastor@acparis.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Homeless Ministry (sandwich/lunch project)** | Saturday 19 |               |            | Dan Haugh & Jurie Ane Feleo youthpastor@acparis.org | Providing breakfast and sandwiches to the homeless of Paris. | Saturday 19 |               |            | Dan Haugh & Jurie Ane Feleo youthpastor@acparis.org | Providing breakfast and sandwiches to the homeless of Paris. | Saturday 19 |               |            | Dan Haugh & Jurie Ane Feleo youthpastor@acparis.org | Providing breakfast and sandwiches to the homeless of Paris. | Saturday 19 |               |            | Dan Haugh & Jurie Ane Feleo youthpastor@acparis.org | Providing breakfast and sandwiches to the homeless of Paris. | Saturday 19 |               |            | Dan Haugh & Jurie Ane Feleo youthpastor@acparis.org | Providing breakfast and sandwiches to the homeless of Paris. | Saturday 19 |               |            | Dan Haugh & Jurie Ane Feleo youthpastor@acparis.org | Providing breakfast and sandwiches to the homeless 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**ACP Spire Diary – October events, meetings & concerts (cont.)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Special Events and Monthly Meetings and Concerts</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>School Vacation, Toussaint</td>
<td>Saturday 19-Nov</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACP Parent Forum: Understanding Your Teenager</td>
<td>Sunday 20</td>
<td>15h00 -17h30</td>
<td>2nd floor Library</td>
<td>Dan Haugh [<a href="mailto:youthpastor@acparis.org">youthpastor@acparis.org</a>]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker: Mark Oestreicher, veteran youth worker and founding partner in The Youth Cartel.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Atelier Concert - Free admission, with free-will offering</td>
<td>Sunday 20</td>
<td>17h00</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
<td>Fred Gramann [<a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a>]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michel GEOFFROY piano and Laurent MAZLIAK vocal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Young Adults - Pub Theology</td>
<td>Monday 21</td>
<td>19h30</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dan Haugh [<a href="mailto:youthpastor@acparis.org">youthpastor@acparis.org</a>]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACP Today: Faith Talk in Paris radio show</td>
<td>Monday 21</td>
<td>20h45 -21h30</td>
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<td>100.7 FM Radio Fréquence Protestante</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tune in for inspiring music, interviews, and sermon highlights.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Council Meeting</td>
<td>Tuesday 22</td>
<td>19h30</td>
<td>Thuber Room</td>
<td>Radford Laney [<a href="mailto:councilmoderator@acparis.org">councilmoderator@acparis.org</a>]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurber Thursday</td>
<td>Thursday 24</td>
<td>19h30 -22h00</td>
<td>Thuber Room</td>
<td>Michelle Wahila [<a href="mailto:associatepastor@acparis.org">associatepastor@acparis.org</a>]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker: Dr. Teresa Stricklen, &quot;Everyday Spirituality&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACP Fall Retreat</td>
<td>Friday 25</td>
<td>- Sunday 27</td>
<td>La Clarté-Dieu, Orsay</td>
<td>Michelle Wahila [<a href="mailto:associatepastor@acparis.org">associatepastor@acparis.org</a>]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker: Dr. Teresa Stricklen, Associate for Worship, Office of Theology and Worship for the Presbyterian Church (USA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Change clocks to winter time (standard time)</td>
<td>Sunday 27</td>
<td>2h00</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Set your clocks back</td>
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<tr>
<td>Atelier Concert - Free admission, with free-will offering</td>
<td>Sunday 27</td>
<td>17h00</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
<td>Fred Gramann [<a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a>]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elisa DOUGHTY soprano, John BERNARD tenor, Olivier YVRARD piano</td>
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<tr>
<td>Young Adult Pumpkin Carving Party</td>
<td>Tuesday 29</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dan Haugh [<a href="mailto:youthpastor@acparis.org">youthpastor@acparis.org</a>]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AICEME Youth Conference</td>
<td>Thursday 31-Nov</td>
<td>17h00</td>
<td>All Nations Church, Luxembourg</td>
<td>Dan Haugh [<a href="mailto:youthpastor@acparis.org">youthpastor@acparis.org</a>]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrive - Real faith: Real life. A weekend retreat of community, worship and conversation for high school students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sundays</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Traditional Service</strong></td>
<td>Communion weekly</td>
<td>9h00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult Choir rehearsal</td>
<td></td>
<td>9h45</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Traditional Service &amp; Children’s Worship</strong></td>
<td>communion service 6 Oct; service led by Youth 13 Oct</td>
<td>11h00</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contemporary Service &amp; Children’s Worship</td>
<td>communion service 6 Oct; service led by Youth 13 Oct</td>
<td>13h30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>African Fellowship Luncheon &amp; Bible Study</strong></td>
<td>Luncheon on first Sunday of month; Bible study on other Sundays.</td>
<td>13h00 (6 Oct) Thurber Room; 12h45 (other Sundays) Room G7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Filipino Fellowship Luncheon &amp; Bible Study</strong></td>
<td>Bible study on first Sunday of month; Luncheon and Bible study on other Sundays.</td>
<td>13h00 (6 Oct) Thurber Room; 13h00 (other Sundays) Thurber Room</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Youth Group (11-18) - Collège &amp; Lycée Group (11-18)</strong></td>
<td>15h00 -17h30 Catacombs</td>
<td>Andrea Chaumont youthintern @acparis.org</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Bible Study International (CBSI)</td>
<td>15h30</td>
<td>2nd floor Library</td>
<td>Ariel Brown</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atelier Concert</td>
<td>Free admission, with free-will offering</td>
<td>17h00 Sanctuary</td>
<td>Fred Gramann <a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mondays</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Knitting Group</td>
<td>We are primarily knitters, beginners and experts, but welcome those who crochet, embroider, needlepoint, ...</td>
<td>16h00 -18h30 Room G2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celebration Ringers rehearsal</td>
<td></td>
<td>18h45 -20h00 Theater</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) International</td>
<td>Discover God’s Word through BSF’s interdenominational and international Bible studies! This Paris class brings together 50 or so women for in-depth Bible study.</td>
<td>19h00 -20h50</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesdays</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Moms In Prayer International</td>
<td>Concerned about your kids? Join us as we lift up our cares and concerns for our children and their schools to our loving Father. Experience the joy of replacing anxiety with peace and hope when we pray together.</td>
<td>9h30 Room G2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's Bible Study</td>
<td>Weekly fellowship, study and prayer. We are studying the book of Romans using John Stott's study guide. Childcare is available for a minimal fee.</td>
<td>10h30 -12h30 Catacombs</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quilting Group</td>
<td></td>
<td>17h00 Members’ homes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Adults Group (18-30) - Pizza Night &amp; Bible Study</td>
<td>Bible Study: 1 &amp; 15 Oct Pizza Night: 8 &amp; 22 Oct</td>
<td>19h30 Bible Study Catacombs; 18h00 Pizza Thurber Room</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** All events are subject to change. Please check the ACP Spire website or contact the organizers directly for the most up-to-date information.
## ACP Spire Diary – Weekly events (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesdays</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Children’s Choir and Children’s Handbell Choir rehearsal (ages 7-12)</td>
<td>14h00-16h00</td>
<td>Theater</td>
<td>Bonnie Woolley <a href="mailto:youthmusic@acparis.org">youthmusic@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherub Choir rehearsal (ages 4-6)</td>
<td>15h00-16h00</td>
<td>Theater</td>
<td>Bonnie Woolley <a href="mailto:youthmusic@acparis.org">youthmusic@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Choir and Handbells rehearsal (Teens)</td>
<td>16h00-18h30</td>
<td>Theater</td>
<td>Bonnie Woolley <a href="mailto:youthmusic@acparis.org">youthmusic@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Choir rehearsal</td>
<td>19h30</td>
<td>Theater</td>
<td>Fred Gramann <a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refuge Ministry</td>
<td>16h00-19h00</td>
<td>Room G7</td>
<td>Jean Taquet <a href="mailto:missionoutreach@acparis.org">missionoutreach@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Professionals Group (25-39)</td>
<td>19h30-21h30</td>
<td>Catacombs</td>
<td>Elodie Lassiere <a href="http://www.acparis.org/yp">www.acparis.org/yp</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Thursdays

| Men's Bible Study                               | 7h30       |                  | Dominique Grelet |
| Spire Ringers rehearsal                         | 15h00-16h00 | Theater        | Fred Gramann music@acparis.org |
| Bronze Ringers rehearsal                         | 19h30-21h30 | Theater        | Fred Gramann music@acparis.org |

### Fridays

| Friday Mission Lunch                            | 10h30-14h00 | Thurber kitchen & Theater | Kristie Worrel |
| Mindful Meditation                              | 12h00-13h15 | Room G2            | Norma Jean Deak |
| Contemporary Service band rehearsal             | 12h00-14h00 | Sanctuary          | Natalie Raynal cmusic@acparis.org |
Clergy and Staff of the American Church in Paris

Ministers
Senior Pastor
Associate Pastor
Visiting Pastor
Dir. Youth and Young Adults
Youth Intern
Dir. Children’s Ministry
Music Director
Contemporary Music Director
Youth Music Director
Business Manager
Accountant
Executive Secretary
Wedding Coordinator
Daytime Receptionist
Evening Receptionist
Saturday Receptionist
Sunday Receptionist
Building Maintenance

The Entire Congregation
Scott Herr
Michelle Wahila
Dan Thornton
Dan Haugh
Andrea Chaumont
Allison Wheeler
Fred Gramann
Natalie Raynal
Bonnie Woolley
Chira Rosen
Jean-Michel Bollecker
Heather Walter
Ilinca Mreana
Emily Claudio
Kithsiri Fernando
Martha Gachoka
Boryana Dimitrova
Tom Padden

seniorpastor@acparis.org
associatepastor@acparis.org
visitingpastor@acparis.org
youthpastor@acparis.org
youthintern@acparis.org
childrensworship@acparis.org
music@acparis.org
cmusic@acparis.org
youthmusic@acparis.org
bizadmin@acparis.org
acctg@acparis.org
secretary@acparis.org
weddings@acparis.org
reception@acparis.org
reception@acparis.org
reception@acparis.org
reception@acparis.org
maintenance@acparis.org

The American Church in Paris is a member congregation of the Association of International Churches in Europe and the Middle East. If you are traveling and looking for a place to worship, please consult...